

SECRET

25X1

19 September 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director

SUBJECT: Rusk's Request

REFERENCE: State Telegram 49432

25X1 [ ] The Secretary has obviously concluded that there is a substantial basis in fact. As we tried to point out to the Under Secretary in our meeting in McNamara's office, this is a judgment that simply cannot be made or drawn with assurance on the basis of what is now known in Washington, nor (judging from Carl's cable) from what is really known in Saigon. If you think the political atmospherics would permit it, I strongly urge that the Secretary's attention be discreetly but firmly directed to this fact. We may have something in train and, if we do, it is a development of major importance, but at this stage we really cannot be sure and hence should avoid assumptions which could well prove unfounded.

George A. Carver, Jr.